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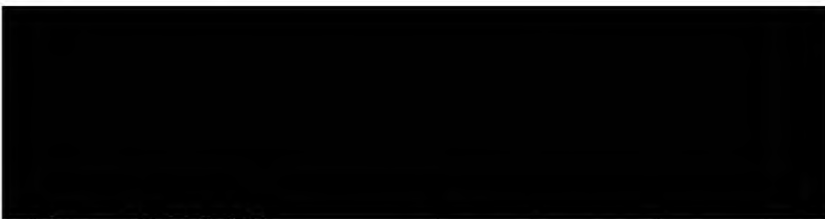
NSC BRIEFING

6 April 1954

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
CHINESE COMMUNIST SUPPORT
OF THE VIET MINH

I.

25X1C



II.

25X1C

[redacted] there are 14 Chinese Communist technical advisers with Viet Minh HQ and numerous others at division level.

- A. We consider it quite possible that there are Chinese advisers with Viet Minh operational HQ but it is not a new development.
- B. We carry 2,000 Chinese Communist advisers with Viet Minh throughout Tonkin at division and lower level.

DOCUMENT NO. 7
NO CHANGE IN CLASS. E1
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III.

25X1X7



- A. We have no information on who the person is heading the Chinese advisers, or what his rank is. But we feel it credible that a general is there.

IV.

25X1X7



- A. We consider this possible.
- B. But in view of other known Chinese Communist materiel support to the Viet Minh, we do not consider this to be particularly significant.

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V.

25X1X7



A.

25X1C



B. We have no information that any of these guns are radar controlled, and feel that if they were, French air losses to these weapons would be greater than they have been. In any case, the use of radar-controlled 37-mm AA has never been reported anywhere.

C. The [redacted] that

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Chinese crews are manning the 37's; this has not been confirmed but is possibly true.

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D. General Cogy said several days ago that he has "... begun to wonder if enemy antiaircraft guns may not be manned by Chinese Communist gunners." He reiterated that he had "no proof of Chinese Communist participation in battle of Dien Bien Phu," and said that "if any proof were forthcoming, it would not long be kept secret."

25X1X7 VI.

The

The Chinese have supplied 1,000 extra trucks recently, 500 of which have arrived since 1 March and all of which are driven by Chinese.

- A. We believe it likely that 1,000 trucks have been recently provided.
- B. We have no substantiation that 500 have arrived since 1 March.

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- C. The Chinese have been driving trucks
from the Chinese border into
Indochina for many months.

VII. The [REDACTED] the Chinese have
25X1X7 given substantial material help in guns
and ammunition to the Viet Minh for Dien
Bien Phu.

- A. The Viet Minh is using substantial
numbers 105-mm artillery pieces at
Dien Bien Phu for the first time in
the war.
- B. We think they have about 22/105's
at Dien Bien Phu.
- C. They are using 37-mm AAA, and this is
the first instance of Viet Minh use
of this weapon in the war.

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- D. The Chinese have made a special effort to supply the Viet Minh in this battle by making available unprecedented amounts of artillery, mortar and small-arms ammunition, and food and medical supplies.

VIII. There are other forms of Chinese aid.

- A. Training of Viet Minh regular troops in China has been taking place since 1951.
- B. Pilot training on piston-engined aircraft has been reported so frequently that it is now accepted.
- C. There have been rumors of naval training on Hainan.

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